Setting[1] up of more Handloom industries in Uttar Pradesh

3332. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what wag the total production of handloom clothes in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Gujarat during the last two years;

(b) whether Government propose to formulate any scheme to boost handloom industries;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) whether any more handloom industries are proposed to be set up in Uttar Pradesh; and

(e) if so, what are; the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) In view of the decentralised nature of the handloom production, the State-wise annual data of actual cloth produced in the handloom sector is not accessible to the Government. Produe, tion of cloth is estimated on the basis of civil deliveries of hank yame made by spinning' mills in the country. The estimated production of handloom cloth in, the country has been 4155 million metres and 4541 million metres during 1989.90 and 1990-91 respectively.

(b) and (c) Government of India, is implementing a number of schemes of standing nature for the development of handloom sector. During the Eighth Plan period these schemes will be redesigned to suit the need of the area and the weavers providing for greater flexibility and decentralisation and to generate higher employment in the handloom sector. During 1991-92 three new schemes have been Introduced. They are (i) Integrated Handloom Village Development Scheme; (ii) Margin Money for Destitute Weavers; (iii) Project Package Scheme. In addition, the Thrift Fund Scheme . has been revised and has been expanded to include weavers outside the cooperative fold also. The unit cost under the Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme has been upgraded and provision for electrification and land cost included in the unit cost. These measures are expected to boost the handloom industry.

(d) and (e) Handloom weaving is by and large a decentralised activity. Government of India, through their schemes, encourages the individual weavers to form cooperatives or enrol themselves as member with the State Handloom Corporations. Assistances under various schemes are pro. vided on the basis of specific proposals received from the State Governments.

Encouragement to Female Garmen Exporters

3324. SHRI TTNDIVANAM G. VENKATARAMAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether garment exports is encouraged by the Central Government;

(b) in what ways the exports are being boosted; and

(c) whether Government will encourage women entrepreneurs in this field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have taken several steps to boost export of garments like modernisation of Garment industry by allowing import of garment manufac turing machinery at concessional duty, organising buyer seller meets and participating in fairs, providing adequate encouragement to manufacturer-exporters and non-quota exports thourgh Garment Quota Policy etc.

(c) Government encourages all en trepreneurs, including women, in. their export edeavours.